

- I. Project Title: Coordinated Reservoir Operations Duchesne River**
- II. Principle Investigator:** Ed Vidmar
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- III. Project Summary:** The project study will identify and evaluate potential opportunities to coordinate the operation of various reservoirs located in the Duchesne River Basin upstream of the lower Duchesne Rivers with the goal of delivering water through the lower Duchesne River for improvement of the habitat. Reclamation Projects having facilities located in this part of the basin are the Central Utah Project, Moon Lake Project, Provo River Project, Strawberry Valley Project and the Ute Indian Irrigation Project. Although these projects were independently authorized, there may be opportunities to coordinate the operation of certain facilities to benefit the habitat and endangered fish while not impairing the ability of the Projects to satisfy their authorized purposes. Other non-Federal reservoirs may offer additional opportunities to coordinate operations. The potential opportunities will be fully described in the Summary Report with emphasis on those that appear to be the most viable.
- The lower 2.5 miles of the Duchesne River has been designated as critical habitat for the razorback sucker and the lower Duchesne River may be important habitat for the endangered Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker. Recovery of these fish in the upper Colorado River is expected to require improvement of existing habitat conditions. The coordinated operation of reservoirs located on the Duchesne River may result in the ability to enhance flows in the lower Duchesne River during periods of the year for the benefit of the endangered fish.
- IV. Study Schedule: 1998 - 2002**
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP:**
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 2002 tasks and deliverables, discussion of initial findings and shortcomings:** The Coordinated Reservoir Operations model was completed last year. This year was spent presenting model results to water user organizations, US Fish and Wildlife personnel and other interested parties. Biologists completing the Biological Opinion for the Duchesne River made requests for data. The final report for the Coordinated Reservoir operation is substantially completed and will be reviewed and presented to the Recovery Implementation Program sometime in early 2003.

VII. Recommendations:

The model is complete based on current water rights and historical operation. Several additional scenarios have been completed. Additional model runs can be made by request.

VIII. Project Status:

Task 5 is complete. Task 6 is 85 percent complete. With the model complete the additional scenarios are easy to implement. The final report is nearly complete. When completed it will be reviewed internally and presented to the Recovery Program.

IX. FY 2002 Budget:

Funds Provided: \$30,000 RIP

Funds Expended: \$15,022 RIP

Difference: \$14,988 Funds reserved for additional model runs, travel and meeting expenses.

Recovery Program Funds Expended for Publication Charges: None

X. Signed: /S/ Edward A. Vidmar

Date: December 11, 2002